

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A multifunctional pushbutton switch comprising

a plurality of pushbutton switching units having actuation tappets and pushbutton surfaces, said pushbutton surfaces being arranged close to each other in a common operating surface,

a common switch housing with guiding means for movably guiding said actuation tappets in said switch housing,

a cap mounted onto said common switch housing, said cap comprising a relatively rigid plastic frame with one cutout window, said one cutout window corresponding in shape and size to the circumference of the pushbutton surfaces,

said cap further comprising a silicone membrane stretched over said one cutout window and an outer surface of said silicone membrane forming said common operating surface and surface.

~~said cap being made by a two-component injection molding technique.~~

Claim 2 (original) The multifunctional pushbutton switch according to claim 1, wherein guide walls of the switch housing extend all the way to the inner surface of the silicone membrane between the actuation tappets.

Claim 3 (previously amended) The multifunctional pushbutton switch according to claim 1, wherein the actuation tappets are pressed resiliently against the inner surface of the silicone membrane and are limited in their movement to their unactuated resting by stop members.

Claim 4 (original) The multifunctional pushbutton switch according to claim 3, wherein the stop members are formed by projections that are molded onto the actuation tappets and that interact with abutment surfaces on the housing that face away from the silicone membrane.

Claim 5 (previously amended) The multifunctional pushbutton switch according to claim 1, wherein said common operating surface formed by the outer surface of the silicone membrane has an altogether convex curvature.

Claim 6 (previously amended) The multifunctional pushbutton switch according to claim 1, wherein the actuation tappets have a curvature or indentation that can be felt through the silicone membrane and that is located on the operating surface that lies against the inner surface of the silicone membrane.

Claim 7 (original) The multifunctional pushbutton switch according to claim 1, wherein the plastic frame and the silicone membrane are joined with an inter-material bond.

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Claim 8 (original) The multifunctional pushbutton switch according to claim 7, wherein the silicone membrane engages around the outer circumference of the plastic frame with a shape fit.

Claim 9-11(canceled)